AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for a client device having a common interface to interact with a server device having an interface, the method comprising:

receiving, by the client device, of user interface descriptions from the server device, wherein the user interface descriptions comprise commands and options of the server device translated, at the server device, into a common format in XML;

mapping, after the receiving, of the commands and the options to inputs on the common interface, thereby producing mapped inputs at the client device, wherein the mapped inputs result from converting, at the server device, the user interface descriptions translated into the common format in XML to the inputs on the common interface of the client device without changing code at the client device and the server device; and

transmitting a selected one of the mapped inputs from the client device to the server device for execution by the server device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising executing the selected one of the mapped inputs received by the server device.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the executing comprises reading xml associated with the selected one of the mapped inputs transmitted to the server device, and performing the selected one of the mapped inputs.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting the client device for the mapping.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising configuring, by the user, of the inputs on the common interface of the client device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting the client device for configuring one or more of the inputs on the common interface.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving of the user interface descriptions comprises receiving xml files.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving and the transmitting comprises via wireless communication between the client device and the server device.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mapping comprises interpreting the user interface descriptions and associating each of the commands and the options with the inputs.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for a client device having a common interface to interact with a server device having an interface, the system comprising:

a receiver on the client device for receiving user interface descriptions from the server device, wherein the user interface descriptions comprise commands and options of the server device, from a server transmitter, translated into a common format in XML;

a mapping module associated with the receiver of the client device for mapping of the commands and the options to inputs on the common interface, thereby producing mapped inputs at the client device, wherein the mapped inputs result from converting, at the server device, the user interface descriptions translated into the common format in XML to the inputs on the common interface of the client device without changing code at the client device and the server device; and

a client transmitter for transmitting a selected one of the mapped inputs from the client device to the server device for execution by the server.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising an executor module for executing the selected one of the mapped inputs received by a server receiver on the server device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the executor module comprises a reader module for reading xml associated with the selected one of the mapped inputs received by the server device, and a performer module for performing the selected one of the mapped inputs.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the server device comprises a functionality reduced to an add-on device.

14. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising a configurator module for configuring, by the user, of the inputs on the common interface of the client device.

15. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the client device comprises a portable device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the client device comprises a PDA.

17. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the server device comprises a vending machine.

18. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the mapping module comprises an interpreter module for interpreting the user interface descriptions and an associator module for associating each of the commands and the options with the inputs.

19. (Currently Amended) A machine-accessible medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations for a client device having a common interface to interact with a server device having an interface, comprising:

receiving, by the client device, of user interface descriptions from the server device, wherein the user interface descriptions comprise commands and options of the server device translated, at the server device, into a common format in XML;

mapping, after the receiving, of the commands and the options to inputs on the common interface, thereby producing mapped inputs at the client device, wherein the mapped inputs result from converting, at the server device, the user interface descriptions translated into the common format in XML to the inputs on the common interface of the client device without changing code at the client device and the server device; and

transmitting a selected one of the mapped inputs from the client device to the server device for execution by the server device.

20. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise operations for executing the selected one of the mapped inputs received by the server device.

21. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions for executing comprise instructions for reading xml associated with the selected one of the mapped inputs transmitted to the server device, and instructions for performing the selected one of the mapped inputs.

22. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise operations for prompting the client device for the mapping.

23. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise operations for configuring, by the user, of the inputs on the common interface of the client device.

24. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise operations for prompting the client device for configuring one or more of the inputs on the common interface.

25. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions for receiving and the instructions for transmitting comprise via wireless communication between the client device and the server device.

26. (Original) The machine-accessible medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions for mapping comprise instructions for interpreting the user interface descriptions and instructions for associating each of the commands and the options with the inputs.

27. (Cancelled).